AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please make the following changes to the claims of the printed patent:

1. (**Amended**) A pharmaceutical composition for topical administration [comprising] consisting of a synergistic combination of a topically acceptable antiviral substance which is 1) a herpes-specific nucleoside analogue or an ester, salt or solvate thereof that is preferentially phosphorylated in virus-infected cells or 2) selected from the group consisting of cidofovir, PMEA, PAA and PFA or an ester, salt or solvate thereof, and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

2. (**Amended**) A pharmaceutical composition for topical administration [comprising] consisting of a synergistic combination of a topically acceptable antiviral substance selected from the group consisting of acyclovir, cidofovir, desciclovir, famciclovir, ganciclovir, lobucavir, penciclovir,

PMEA, valacyclovir, 2242, PAA, PFA and H2G or an ester, salt or solvate thereof and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

3. (**Amended**) [A] The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is selected from the group consisting of hydrocortisone, alclometasone, desonide, fluprednidene, flumethasone, hydrocortisone butyrate, clobetasone, triamcinolone acetonide, budesonide, desoximethasone, diflorosane, fluocinolone, fluocortolone, fluticasone, methylprednisolone aceponate, mometasone and rofleponide or an ester, salt or solvate thereof.

4. (**Amended**) [A] The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, wherein the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is selected from the group consisting of hydrocortisone, alclometasone, desonide, fluprednidene, flumethasone, hydrocortisone butyrate, clobetasone, triamcinolone acetonide, budesonide, desoximethasone, diflorosane, fluocinolone, fluocortolone, fluticasone, methylprednisolone aceponate, mometasone and rofleponide or an ester, salt or solvate thereof.

5. (**Amended**) [A] The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the antiviral substance is foscarnet and the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or an ester thereof.

6. (**Amended**) [A] The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the antiviral substance is foscarnet and the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is budesonide, or an ester thereof.

7. (**Amended**) [A] The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the antiviral substance is acyclovir, or an ester, salt or solvate thereof, and the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or an ester thereof.

8. (**Amended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5 comprising 0.1-10% foscarnet and 0.005-3% hydrocortisone.

9. (**Amended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 8 comprising 1-5% foscarnet.

10. (**Amended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 8 comprising 0.3-3% foscarnet and 0.25-1% hydrocortisone.

11. (**Amended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 6 comprising 0.1-10% foscarnet and 0.005-3% budesonide.

12. (**Amended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11 comprising 1-5% foscarnet.

13. (**Amended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim

7 comprising 0.1-10% acyclovir and 0.005-3% hydrocortisone.

14. (**Amended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 comprising 1-5% acyclovir.

15. (**Amended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14 comprising 0.25-1% hydrocortisone.

16. (**Amended**) A cream, lotion, gel, ointment, plaster, stick or pen containing a pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 1-15.

17. (**Amended**) A method for the prophylaxis [and/]or treatment of herpes labialis or labial herpes virus infections [of the skin or mucous membranes] in mammals comprising topical administration, in combination or in sequence, of a therapeutically synergistic dose of a topically acceptable antiviral substance which is 1) a herpes-specific nucleoside analogue or an ester, salt or solvate thereof that is preferentially phosphorylated in virus-infected cells or 2) selected from the group consisting of cidofovir, PMEA, PAA and PFA or an ester, salt or solvate thereof and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane

and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates.

18. (**Amended**) A method for the prophylaxis [and/]or treatment of herpes labialis or labial herpes virus infections [of the skin or mucous membranes] in mammals comprising topical administration, in combination or in sequence, of a therapeutically synergistic dose of a topically acceptable antiviral substance selected from the group consisting of acyclovir, cidofovir, desciclovir, famciclovir, ganciclovir, lobucavir, pencyclovir, PMEA, valacyclovir, 2242, PAA, PFA and H2G or an ester, salt or solvate thereof and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 17, wherein the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is selected from the group consisting of hydrocortisone, alclometasone, desonide, fluprednidene, flumethasone, hydrocortisone butyrate, clobetasone, triamcinolone acetonide, budesonide, desoximethasone, diflorosane, fluocinolone, fluocortolone, fluticasone, methylprednisolone aceponate, mometasone and rofleponide or an ester, salt or solvate thereof.

20. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 18, wherein the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is selected from the group consisting of hydrocortisone, alclometasone, desonide, fluprednidene, flumethasone, hydrocortisone butyrate, clobetasone, triamcinolone acetonide, budesonide, desoximethasone, diflorosane, fluocinolone, fluocortolone, fluticasone, methylprednisolone aceponate, mometasone and rofleponide or an ester, salt or solvate thereof.

21. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 17, wherein the antiviral substance is foscarnet and the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or an ester thereof.

22. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 17, wherein the antiviral substance is foscarnet and the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is budesonide, or an ester thereof.

23. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 17, wherein the antiviral substance is acyclovir, or an ester, salt or solvate thereof, and the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or an ester thereof.

24. (**Amended**) [A] The method for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of [herpesvirus] herpes labialis or labial herpes infections [of the skin or mucous membranes] in mammals comprising topical administration of a composition according to any one of claims 1-15.

25. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 24 wherein the composition is contained in a cream, lotion, gel, ointment, plaster, stick or pen.

26. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to any one of claims 17-23, wherein the [herpesvirus] herpes labialis or labial herpes infection is a recurrent [herpesvirus] infection.

27. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to any one of claims 17-23, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 1 to 10 times per day.

28. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 27, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 3 to 4 times per day.

29. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 26, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 1 to 10 times per day.

30. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 29, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 3 to 4 times per day.

31. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to any one of claims 17-23 wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered in combination and are contained in a cream, lotion, gel, ointment, plaster, stick or pen.

32. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 24, wherein the [herpesvirus] herpes labialis or labial herpes infection is a recurrent [herpesvirus] infection.

33. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 24, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 1 to

10 times per day.

34. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 33, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 3 to 4 times per day.

35. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 31, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 1 to 10 times per day.

36. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 35, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 3 to 4 times per day.

Please add the following new claims:

37. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 or 2, comprising 1-5% acyclovir and 0.25-1% hydrocortisone.

38. The method according to claim 17, wherein said antiviral is acyclovir and said anti-inflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or an ester thereof.

39. A pharmaceutical composition for topical administration consisting essentially of 2.5% acyclovir and 0.5% hydrocortisone.

40. A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of herpes virus infections of the skin or mucous membranes in mammals comprising topical administration, in combination or in sequence, of a therapeutically synergistic dose of 2.5% acyclovir and 0.5% hydrocortisone.

41. A pharmaceutical composition for topical administration consisting essentially of a synergistic combination of penciclovir or famciclovir , or an ester, salt or solvate thereof and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

42. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 41, wherein the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone or an ester, salt or solvate thereof.

43. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 42 comprising 0.005-3% (w/w) hydrocortisone.

44. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 43 comprising 0.25-1% hydrocortisone.

45. A cream, lotion, gel, ointment, plaster, stick or pen containing a pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 39-44.

46. A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of herpes virus

infections of the skin or mucous membranes in mammals comprising topical administration, in combination or in sequence, of a therapeutically synergistic dose of a topically acceptable antiviral substance selected from the group consisting of penciclovir and famciclovir , or an ester, salt or solvate thereof and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

47. The method according to claim 46, wherein the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone or an ester, salt or solvate thereof.

48. The method according to claim 46 wherein the composition is contained in a cream, lotion, gel, ointment, plaster, stick or pen.

49. The method according to any one of claims 46-48, wherein the herpes virus infection is a recurrent herpes virus infection.

50. The method according to any one of claims 46-48, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 1 to 10 times per day.

51. The method according to claim 50, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 3 to 4 times per day.

52. The method according to any one of claims 46-48 wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered in combination and are contained in a cream, lotion, gel, ointment, plaster, stick or pen.

53. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a nucleoside analogue active against herpes simplex virus selected from the group consisting of acyclovir and valaciclovir, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof and an effective amount of a pharmaceutically acceptable immunosuppressant.

54. A method of treatment or prophylaxis of herpes simplex virus infections in a human in need thereof, which method comprises administering to said human, an effective amount of a nucleoside analogue active against herpes simplex virus selected from the group consisting of acyclovir and valaciclovir, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof and an effective amount of a pharmaceutically acceptable immunosuppressant.

55. The composition according to claim 53 wherein the immunosuppressant is a cytotoxic agent, a corticosteriod, or a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

56. The composition according to claim 53 wherein the immunosuppressant is a cyclophosphamide, cyclosporin A,

hydrocortisone, or dexamethasone.

57. The method according to claim 54, wherein the immunosuppressant is a cytotoxic agent, a corticosteroid, or a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

58. The method according to claim 54, wherein the immunosuppressant is a cyclophosphamide, cyclosporin A, hydrocortisone, or dexamethasone.

59. A method of treatment or prophylaxis of a herpes simplex virus infection in a human in need thereof, which method comprises administering simultaneously to said human an effective amount of a nucleoside analogue active against herpes simplex virus selected from the group consisting of acyclovir and famciclovir , or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof and an effective amount of a pharmaceutically acceptable immunosuppresant.

60. The method according to claim 59 wherein the immunosuppressant is a cytotoxic agent, a corticosteriod, or a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

61. The method according to claim 59 wherein the immunosuppressant is a cyclophosphamide, cyclosporin A, hydrocortisone, or dexamethasone.

62. A method of treatment or prophylaxis of a herpes simplex virus infection in a human in need thereof, which method comprises administering sequentially to said human an effective amount of a nucleoside analogue active against herpes simplex virus selected from the group consisting of acyclovir and

famciclovir , or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof and an effective amount of a pharmaceutically acceptable immunosuppresant.

63. The method according to claim 61 wherein the immunosuppressant is a cytotoxic agent, a corticosteriod, or a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

64. The method according to claim 61 wherein the immunosuppressant is a cyclophosphamide, cyclosporin A, hydrocortisone, or dexamethasone.

65. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a nucleoside analogue active against herpes simplex virus selected from the group consisting of acyclovir and valaciclovir, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof and an effective amount of an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates.

66. A method of treatment or prophylaxis of herpes simplex virus infections in a human in need thereof, which method comprises administering to said human, an effective amount of a nucleoside analogue active against herpes simplex virus selected

from the group consisting of acyclovir and valaciclovir, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof and an effective amount of an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates.

67. The composition according to claim 65 wherein the glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or dexamethasone.

68. The composition according to claim 66 wherein the glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or dexamethasone.

69. A method of treatment or prophylaxis of a herpes simplex virus infection in a human in need thereof, which method comprises administering simultaneously to said human an effective amount of a nucleoside analogue active against herpes simplex virus selected from the group consisting of acyclovir and famciclovir , or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof and an effective amount of an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane,

diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates

70. The method according to claim 69, wherein the glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or dexamethasone.

71. A method of treatment or prophylaxis of a herpes simplex virus infection in a human in need thereof, which method comprises administering sequentially to said human an effective amount of a nucleoside analogue active against herpes simplex virus selected from the group consisting of acyclovir and famciclovir , or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof and an effective amount of an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates

72. The method according to claim 71, wherein said glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or dexamethasone.

73. A method for the treatment of herpes labialis or labial herpes virus infections comprising the topical administration of an effective amount of a nucleoside analogue active against herpes simplex virus selected from the group consisting of acyclovir and valaciclovir, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

74. The method according to claim 73, wherein said anti-inflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone.

75. A method for the treatment of herpes labialis or labial herpes virus infections comprising the simultaneous topical administration of an effective amount of a nucleoside analogue active against herpes simplex virus selected from the group consisting of acyclovir and valaciclovir, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide,

halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

76. The method according to claim 75, wherein said glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone.

77. A method for the treatment of herpes labialis or labial herpes virus infections comprising the sequential topical administration of an effective amount of a nucleoside analogue active against herpes simplex virus selected from the group consisting of acyclovir and valaciclovir, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

78. The method according to claim 77, wherein said glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone.